

No. 1

How many persons are employed by Radio Liberty?

STAT

Radio Liberty employs of these are aliens who
hold valid U. S. re-entry permits.

STAT

No. 2

How many persons are married and number of children?

Six of the nine persons holding U. S. re-entry permits are married, with six dependent children.

No. 3

What are the present salaries of those employees who hold U. S. re-entry permits?

The present salaries of these nine employees range between

STAT

STAT

No. 4

How long has each person been employed by Radio Liberty?

The length of service of these nine employees extends between 4 years and 15 years. The average length of employment with Radio Liberty is 9 years and 8 months.

No. 5

In what capacity do these employees now serve?

These nine employees include 3 Program Specialists, 2 Senior Editors, 1 Senior Research Specialist, 1 Reference Librarian, 1 Circulation Manager, and 1 Secretary.

No. 6

What was the employment of such persons during the ten year period preceding their employment by Radio Liberty?

The employment background of these nine persons was quite diverse, though a number were editors for emigre publications, translators and interpreters, and military officers. More detailed bio sheets are available for consultation.

No. 7

What was the country of birth for each employee?

Seven of these persons were born in the USSR; one was born in Egypt; another in Great Britain.

No. 8

When did each person leave his country of birth?

Two of these employees left their country in 1942; two in 1943; one in 1944; one in 1947; one in 1948; one in 1957; one in 1961. Those who left during World War II were taken as POW's or forced laborers from the USSR to Germany.

No. 9

What is the policy of Radio Liberty in its broadcasts? Do the broadcasts advocate national independence for nations subjugated by, or under control of Communist officials?

Radio Liberty in all its broadcasts, but particularly in its non-Russian-language transmissions, advocates the unhampered right of all Soviet peoples to national self-determination. As pointed out in Radio Liberty's Policy Position Statement on "Self-Determination for All Peoples," of March 22, 1962, Radio Liberty provides its listeners with analyses of Soviet colonialism within its own borders; presses for implementation of the right to self-determination outlined in the Soviet Constitution but never in practice allowed by the Soviet communist party; and "insists that all peoples, inside as well as outside the communist world, should be able freely and without interference from any foreign power to exercise the right of national self-determination."

Radio Liberty's Policy Manual stresses that all language desks will speak to their own peoples inside the USSR "in support of their common cause of freedom from centralized dictatorial rule, the achievement of a truly democratic system, and the right of each people freely to determine its own fate on the basis of unhampered self-determination."

Radio Liberty does not, however, suggest forms for a future political or social order in the USSR, since such would depend on the free choice of the peoples concerned. Nor does it seek to set one nationality against another, but rather to demonstrate the justice of priority for native languages and customs, freedom from the party's central control over local economic resources, and greater political power for non-Russian nationalities in their own areas.

Radio Liberty, in short, insists on the right of each people freely to determine its own fate. Radio Liberty does not, however, aim to incite group action against the regime, since such attempts could lead to violence and physical repression of our audience; rather, Radio Liberty seeks to stimulate that which Moscow fears above all -- freedom of individual thought and expression.

No. 10

Do the broadcasts disapprove of Communism, and if so, give several copies of such broadcasts as examples.

The broadcasts of Radio Liberty disapprove of Communism and seek to convince listeners that there are practical, democratic political alternatives to the present authoritarian system; efficient economic alternatives to a centralized, planned economy; and richly rewarding cultural alternatives to the literary and artistic forms prescribed by the Soviet leadership. Radio Liberty insists that the only alternative to the rigid thought patterns imposed by Moscow is freedom of individual thought and expression. Radio Liberty pinpoints progressive trends in all these areas of Soviet society and encourages its listeners to support these trends and press for their extension.

In addition, Radio Liberty aims to undermine the faith of communist adherents in their ideology, to convince them that Marxism-Leninism is not only bankrupt but dangerous to world peace, and to show them that history is not on the side of "class struggle" but rather points toward peaceful development of societies in freedom under the rule of law.

Radio Liberty seeks to encourage the schism in the communist bloc by, on the one hand, presenting the chauvinism of Red China as inimical to Soviet national interest and, on the other, demonstrating that certain East European countries' vigorous new policies of independence from Moscow will lead to greater stability in Europe.

Radio Liberty supports progressive political, economic and cultural movements among East European citizens who seek greater freedom from their governments' strictures, and uses these to demonstrate to its Soviet audience that there are many ways in which peoples living under communist rule can demand greater flexibility from their governments.

Radio Liberty's position toward Communism is reflected in the comments of its listeners. The following statements were made by Soviet citizens either in letters addressed to Radio Liberty or in conversations with Radio Liberty correspondents:

A former officer in the Red Army in his 50's from Moscow; a Communist Party member:

"I find that I am much better informed since I have begun listening to foreign broadcasts, and Radio Liberty's programs are the most instructive about events within our society. I am afraid I have been turned into a bad communist by my foreign radio listening; I have become critical of several aspects of our national life."

No. 10 (cont.)

A writer from Moscow advises Radio Liberty in the following terms:

"Tell the truth directly, without fear, about the shortcomings in the Soviet Union. Don't do it indirectly and by allusions. Don't believe it when you are told that Soviet listeners know better about the shortcomings in the USSR than you do in the West. This is a lie. The importance of Radio Liberty can be summed up very briefly: a station which provides truthful information and explanation about the Soviet Union."

Radio Liberty broadcasts two series of programs. The First Program concentrates on news and political analysis. The Second Program features "in-depth" broadcasts on cultural and scientific subjects and other themes of general interest. A teacher in Kaliningrad replies to a broadcast requesting information about listener preferences:

"One of your broadcasts contained a request to give one's views concerning the First and Second Programs. The First Program is better: 1) It contains more political news, reviews, analyses, etc. This forces one to be always informed about the news and to follow the press. 2) The abundance of political information and especially its analysis permits one to contradict and enter into discussions with better arguments and more courage. 3) It helps to invest one's discontent, doubts, and conjectures with a more concrete form, with exact and correct names."

A Moscow taxi driver in his twenties:

"Radio Liberty is critical of our system, but one is better informed when one listens to their commentaries and interviews. The station appears to be voicing the unanimous protest of the oppressed people in our society It is operated by Russians who are determined to change our society, and this gives us the feeling that the station is ours in our campaign."

A thirty-five-year-old factory worker in Moscow:

"Listening to Radio Liberty is a form of political education. Quite recently I heard a commentary on news reporting in the Soviet Union. The commentator sought to prove that the Soviet press printed many lies, and that the Soviet public was fed with distorted information on world events. The case was very strongly put, and well-known instances which were irrefutable were

No. 10 (concl.)

quoted to support the case. This left us in no doubt about the truth of the accusation. It is a generally recognized fact that our newspapers do not report on facts, and this commentary of Liberty's strengthened our convictions about this. This commentary provoked a discussion in our factory which lasted for days."

(Scripts attached)

No. 12

What is the justification for Congress to exempt employees of Radio Liberty from the Statutory requirement of five-year residence in the United States in order to be eligible for citizenship?

The legislation proposed under the Rodino bill (H.R. 2138) would serve the long-term interests of the United States. The employees of Radio Liberty Committee who would qualify for citizenship under this legislation have already aided American interests abroad by their loyal service to the Committee and have proved their dedication to the American principles of freedom and democracy which are the essence of Radio Liberty's information activities. They should not be denied U. S. citizenship simply because their employment abroad with Radio Liberty has made it impossible for them to fulfill U. S. residence requirements. Through their association with Radio Liberty we believe that these individuals have prepared themselves well, despite residence abroad, to assume the rights and burdens of U. S. citizenship and would in fact make exemplary citizens. Their day-to-day contact with American co-workers, who constitute one-quarter of the staff, and their experiences with other ways of life in the past have made them convinced defenders of American values and opponents of communist regimes. If naturalized under the provisions of the Rodino Bill, their continued service to U. S. interests abroad, where they are urgently needed, would be assured.

At the present time, nine employees of Radio Liberty Committee would benefit from this legislation. Some idea of their calibre can be obtained from the following examples:

Krikor Balekdjian, who holds degrees from Cambridge and London Universities, has been employed by Radio Liberty Committee for ten years as a script writer, translator and administrator. He has a rare combination of education and language skills, with fluency in Armenian, Arabic, Russian, Turkish, French, and English; and he has been characterized by one of his supervisors as "an extraordinarily valuable asset," an individual with "good judgment, a quick mind, and absolute dependability." Both Mr. Balekdjian's mother and brother have been naturalized American citizens for a number of years; but because of his work for Radio Liberty Committee, he has so far been unable to fulfill residence requirements. After service with the British War Office in World War II, with the rank of major, Mr. Balekdjian -- Armenian by origin -- became a naturalized Egyptian citizen in 1950. Because of his association with Radio Liberty Committee, however, Egyptian authorities now refuse to renew his passport, making his present position with regard to citizenship extremely difficult.

Mr. Devlet Tagiberli, a Program Specialist on the Turkestani desk at Radio Liberty for the past twelve years, was captured by the Germans in World War II and served in a POW camp. A member of one of the Muslim minorities in the Soviet Union, his decision not to return to the USSR at the close of the war made him a stateless person. Mr. Tagiberli is one of the few educated Kirghis in the West; and several American universities have shown interest in hiring him to teach his native language. So far,

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he has preferred to work for Radio Liberty, but his failure to obtain U. S. citizenship is a sore point and one which in the future might persuade him to leave the radio.

Mr. Keith Bush, an acknowledged authority on the Soviet economy, who has been with the radio's Central Research Department for the past four years, was a career officer in the British Army for many years. He holds a graduate degree from the Russian Research Center at Harvard and has published extensively in Western journals on the Soviet Union. Because his services are needed by Radio Liberty in Munich, he has so far been unable to qualify for U. S. citizenship.

No. 13

Do you feel that such five-year requirement is:

No unnecessary, No should be repealed, or No shortened?

No. 14

Is the nature of your broadcast solely to reflect the way of life in the United States? If so, how do you portray it?

Radio Liberty devotes a good deal of attention to international developments in order to provide its Soviet audience with the information and ideas denied them by Moscow's propaganda media; in this connection particular and continuing stress is placed on the democratic alternative represented by the United States. The radio's character and mission, however, is far broader than those official broadcasters whose sole aim is to explain their governments' policies and their national ways of life. Radio Liberty speaks in the name of the peoples of the USSR, articulating the thoughts and interests which those peoples would express if they were freed from the strictures imposed on them; to this end the bulk of Radio Liberty broadcasts deal with the domestic and foreign policies of the Soviet communist party and government.

Radio Liberty's coverage of developments in the non-communist world is governed by two of Radio Liberty's major objectives: 1) to satisfy Soviet listeners' hunger for objective and accurate information about the outside world; and 2) to treat frankly the problems, as well as the achievements, of non-Communist societies, and to show the necessary and effective role of dissent and debate in the overcoming of these problems, thus encouraging Soviet citizens to press for free and open discussion at home of the problems of their own society -- i.e., for the formation of an active "public opinion."

Radio Liberty recognizes that Soviet listeners take a particular interest in the life of the United States and strives to provide them with adequate coverage of American economic, political and cultural developments. At the same time, Radio Liberty's coverage of U. S. domestic events cannot be disproportionate, nor can it be too "American" in tone, inasmuch as (in the words of the station's Policy Manual), "Radio Liberty's approach to world events is that of an enlightened emigre from the Soviet Union concerned primarily with the interest of his fellow countrymen at home ..."

No. 15

What coverage, if any, did you give to the riots of Watts? Please present copies of such broadcasts.

The normal vehicles for in-depth commentary on U. S. domestic affairs are, first, the special weekly half-hour feature program "The American Scene," the principal objective of which is "to make the great evolutionary and dynamic forces at work in the U. S. meaningful to the listener within his frame of reference"; and, second, the U. S. Correspondent's Reports, devoted to fast-breaking news events within the U. S. In these programs Radio Liberty has dealt extensively with civil rights and race relations in the United States. By actual line count, "The American Scene," since its initial broadcast in June of 1963, has done more on race relations than on any other "problem" theme (i.e., automation, unemployment, youth demonstrations and disaffection, war on poverty, industry and labor), and even programs devoted to other "problem" themes invariably touch upon race relations as well. Even before the outbreak of violence in Los Angeles, more than twenty programs broadcast in 1965 had treated the racial problem in a way which would make its complexities clear to the Soviet audience. Some of the major themes treated were changing attitudes, shifting economic patterns, growing awareness of both white and Negro communities of their responsibilities to society; unheralded progress as opposed to front-page sensation; improving quality of Negro education -- the reservoir of future leaders; the growing stable Negro middle class and the apathetic, frustrated poverty-stricken; migration from rural South to depressed urban centers; understanding and action on the Federal level; extremist Negro groups, and criticism of them by other Negro individuals and groups; peaceful and militant action groups; the Negro contribution to the enrichment of U. S. culture. All these themes have been treated against the background of Negro demands for acceleration of progress now, the middle-class white's plea for moderation, and the Federal Government's commitment to fairness for all. Thus, although news coverage of Watt's riots during the period August 11-13 (when major U. S. news media were not yet aware of the extent and significance of the violence) was apparently slight, a regular Radio Liberty listener would have already gained considerable understanding of the deeper causes of the Watt's riots by Radio Liberty commentary leading up to and leading away from the immediately explosive events. Examples of such commentary are included here.